

- Respondents from both groups were likely to believe government is doing too little to control water pollution from all sources. Overall, respondents saw the need for much greater enforcement of existing water quality regulations. Public officials reported a great need for improving coordination among the various agencies and groups involved with managing the A/P system.
- Results show considerable support for a wide range of alternative strategies for managing water quality and natural resources in the A/P system. In particular, nearly all respondents support research, monitoring and education programs aimed at improving understanding of the A/P system.
- Enforcement and expansion of existing regulations, especially those dealing with point source pollution, were among the most highly supported alternatives, even if this means higher personal and social costs. Respondents also supported stronger regulations on septic tanks and tougher enforcement of existing development laws.
- Given the low recognition of nonpoint source pollution problems, the alternatives for controlling agricultural pollution received less support than those related to point sources. Cost sharing was more popular than tougher regulations. Strategies for managing the impacts of fishing practices on the A/P system were also relatively low in terms of overall support. However, a majority still favored even the least popular alternatives.
- Results of the contingent valuation analysis indicate a considerable willingness to pay for new or improved programs for managing the A/P system. Even with the relatively conservative estimates of this research, the overall support levels (\$29 million) should help fund new and existing management efforts.
- Certain payment mechanisms will be more acceptable than others for both the general public and public officials. Most people feel that groups who benefit from and/or degrade the natural resources of the A/P system should pay a greater share of the costs for protecting the system. In general, strong support was found for: higher pollution fines, raising fees charged to sportsmen and users of various public facilities, raising building permit fees, and higher water/sewer rates. The only form of tax that appears acceptable involves raising luxury taxes. Relatively little support was found for raising sales taxes, property taxes, or income taxes.